(b) the details of the estimated cotton crop production in Andhra Pradesh during the year 1987?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Cotton Corporation of India and Cotton Advisory Board are not directly concerned with increasing the production of cotton in Andhra Pradesh and other States of the Country. However, the Cotton Corporation of India, through price and market support, is encouraging farmers to improve the cotton production in the country.

(b) Final estimates of production of cotton for the crop year 1986-87 are not yet due from various States, including Andhra Pradesh. As such, it will be too early to give the estimated cotton crop production in Andhra Pradesh during the year 1987.

Damage of Groundnut Crop due to Leaf Webber Pest in Andhra Pradesh

2785. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the leaf webber pest is severe on standing groundnut crop in Rayalaseema districts (Chittoor, Ananthapur, Kurnool and Cuddapah) of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details of the loss during the last three years district-wise; and

(c) the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) No, Sir. No severe incidence of leaf webber on standing groundnut crop has been reported in Rayalaseema districts of Andhra Pradesh.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Central Assistance to states for drinking water Drought Prone Areas

2786. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to provide assistance to States for drinking water in the drought-prone areas;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal; and

(c) the amount earmarked for this scheme in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV): (a) and (b) Provision of drinking water is a State subject. Projects for providing safe drinking water to rural areas including drought prone areas are planned, formulated and implemented by the States under the State Sector MNP. The Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Governments by providing financial assistance under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). Special arrangements for supply of drinking water in the drought prone areas are also made by the State Governments. The State Governments approach the Central Government for allocation of additional assistance in the event of drought conditions resulting in shortage of drinking water.

(c) During 1986-87 a sum of Rs. 17.60 crores has been released under ARWSP for the State of Andhra Pradesh as a whole. There is no earmarking of ARWSP funds for drought prone areas separately. To implement pilot project activities under the Technology Mission on Drinking Water in Villages and Related Water Management in Kurnool district, a sum of Rs. 2.06 crores has been released during 1986-87. A sum of Rs. 10.75 crores for 1986-87 and Rs. 2.45 crores for 1987-88 has been approved as Advance Plan